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REMARKS

Claims 1-7, 9-11 and 13-34 are presently pending. Claims 1-3, 8-15, 20-26 and 31-34 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Bonnell. Claims 4-7, 16-19 and 27-30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Bonnell in view of Susilo. Claims 1, 11, 22, 31, and 32 are currently amended. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

The presently claimed invention distinguishes the cited references because network devices are both reconfigured and monitored. The Office suggests that the console and agents of Bonnell are suggestive of the NMS and distributed applications of the present invention. However, as described in the specification at page 4, lines 16-20 the application server may provide an application to the network device that changes how the network device processes traffic. In contrast, the agents of Bonnell are limited to discovery, monitoring and recovery. See Abstract. Hence, claim 1 distinguishes Bonnell by reciting "sending one or more network commands to one or more network devices connected to a network causing reconfiguration of how the one or more network devices process network traffic." Similarly, claim 11 distinguishes Bonnell by reciting "receiving a request on a network device among the one or more network devices to execute the network management application including reconfiguring how one or more of the network devices processes network traffic and performing an analysis of use of network resources on one or more other network devices connected to the network." Claims 22, 31 and 32 recite similar distinguishing language. Applicant therefore requests that the rejections of claims 1, 11, 22, 31 and 32 be withdrawn. Claims 2-7, 9-10 and 13-30, and 33-34 further distinguish the invention, and are allowable for the same reasons stated above with regard to their respective base claims. Withdrawal of the rejections of claims 2-7, 9-10 and 13-30, and 33-34 is therefore also requested.

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Applicants have made a diligent effort to place the claims in condition for allowance. However, should there remain unresolved issues that require adverse action, it is respectfully requested that the Examiner telephone the undersigned, Applicants' Attorney at 978-264-6664 so that such issues may be resolved as expeditiously as possible.

For these reasons, and in view of the above amendments, this application is now considered to be in condition for allowance and such action is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully Submitted,

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Date


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